Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 10636 150911Z ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 /008 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9387

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DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE FOR LANKFORD, IMD, O AND OP

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAGR, EPAP

SUBJECT: SCLEROTINIA PROBLEM

REF: FASTO 362

- 1. AFTER CAREFUL CONSULTATION W/MAF PLANT QUARANTINE AND CROCERY FATS AND OILS DIV., AGATT OPINION IS THAT ARS SCIENTIST VISIT IS NOT REPEAT NOT ADVISABLE AT THIS TIME SINCE VISIT WOULD ONLY SERVE TO CAUSE PPQ TO INTENSIFY THEIR ATTITUDE RE INSPECTION.
- 2. AGATT BELIEVES BEST APPROACH AT THIS TIME IS TO ALLOW MAF SOME TIME TO WORK ON PROBLEM INTERNALLY SINCE JAPANESE PQ REGS ARTICLE 7, 1-2 CLEARLY PROHIBIT IMPORT OF ANY SCLEROTINIA THUS MAKING IT ILLEGAL AND SUBSEQUENTLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR MAF/PPQ TO ESTABLISH ANY TOLERANCE LEVELS. HOWEVER, GRAVITY SEPARATION IS USED BY PPQ TO LOWER FUNGUS CONTAMINATION BELOW .001 PER CENT FOR SOYBEANS. PPQ EMPHASIZES THAT THIS IS STILL NOT LEGAL ACCORDING TO THEIR LAW BUT IS ALLOWABLE MECHANICAL TOLERANCE. AGAIN, THIS IS ONLY AN INTERNAL INSTRUCTION AND NOT TO BE DISSEMINATED.
- 3. UNOFFICIALLY, WITH SOYBEAN PRICES FALLING, TRADERS RELUCTANT TO SIFT OUT BEANS (\$50 PER MT COST) AND UNABLE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO OBTAIN CONCESSIONS FROM SHIPPER (CARGILL) ON SHIPMENTS IN REF.

4. AGATT WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED OF ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. IF CARGILL/US AND FAS/W INSIST MAF, OF COURSE, WILLING TO RECEIVE ON LOW KEY BASIS. HOWEVER, EMPHASIZE BEST TO PERMIT TIME AS PARA. 2.

	Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am

Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: SCIENTIFIC VISITS, FOODS, INSPECTIONS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 15-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TOKYO10636
Document Source: 10.00

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D770252-0473

Format: TEL From: TOKYO

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770751/aaaabrwm.tel

Line Count: 63 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 4630c06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION AGRE

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 16-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1843107 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SCLEROTINIA PROBLEM

TAGS: EAGR, EPAP

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4630c06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

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